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DECLARATION

I, Frederick James Diggle III, declare as follows:

1. I am currently employed by BellSouth, Inc. ("BellSouth") and have been so employed since October 1998.
2. In performing my duties for BellSouth, I have dealt with a variety of apparatus equipment and tools involving the transportation and storage of handline, wire and cables.
3. To my knowledge, the carrier handline disclosed by the reference, attached as Exhibit A, and identified as *Carrier Handline B 0A07710, Apparatus Equipment and Tools, BellSouth Products Catalog, January 2003, page 141*, was in commercial use at least as early as January 1999.
4. I hereby declare that all statements made herein of my own knowledge are true and that all statements made on information and belief are believed to be true; and further that these statements were made with the knowledge that willful false statements and the like so made are punishable by fine or imprisonment, or both, under Section 1001 of Title 18 of the United States Code, and that such willful false statements may jeopardize the validity of the application or any patent issued thereon.

Frederick James Diggle III  
Frederick James Diggle III

12-11-03  
Date